

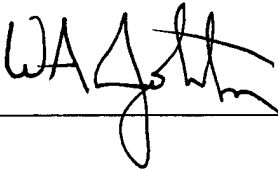
## REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of rejection are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 7 and 9 are allowed. Claims 1-6, 8 and 10-35 are rejected. By entry of this Amendment, claims 1-6, 8 and 10-35 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Consequently, claims 7 and 9 are now pending.

In view of the above, all pending claims of this application are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment and a subsequent prompt Notice of Allowance for all pending claims of this application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/6/04

  
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W.A. Johnston', is written over a horizontal line.

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